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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/954,656	09/18/2001	Georg Friedrich Gaertner	DE000145	7505
24737	7590	01/20/2004	EXAMINER	
PHILIPS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & STANDARDS P.O. BOX 3001 BRIARCLIFF MANOR, NY 10510			SANTIAGO, MARICELI	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2879	

DATE MAILED: 01/20/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/954,656	Applicant(s) GAERTNER ET AL.	
	Examiner Mariceli Santiago	Art Unit 2879	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 September 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 5, 6 and 8 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 7 and 9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 18 September 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

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DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

The Amendment, filed on September 30, 2003, has been entered and acknowledged by the Examiner.

Specification

The specification fails to provide sections headings. It is suggested that the text of the specification sections, except for the drawings, be preceded by a section heading in uppercase and without underlining or bold type. See MPEP 608.01(a).

Claim Objections

Claim 8 is objected to because of the following informalities:

In lines 11-12, the recitation "formed by Pd, Rh, Pt, Co, Ni, Ir, Re" does not conform to grammatical rules, the Examiner suggests the use of either --and-- or, --or-- before the recitation of the last element Re. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 2 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Derks et al. (US 5,075,589).

Regarding claim 1, Derks discloses a cathode ray tube provided with at least one oxide cathode (Fig. 1) comprising a cathode carrier with a cathode base (7) of a cathode metal and a cathode coating of an electron-emitting material (2) containing a particle-particle composite material of oxide particles of an alkaline earth oxide selected from the group formed by the oxides of calcium, strontium and barium (Column 2, lines 49-52), and oxide particles having a first grain size distribution of an oxide selected from the group formed by the oxides of scandium, yttrium and the lanthanoids (Column 2, lines 27-29, $d_{50} > 0.9\mu\text{m}$), and oxide particles having a second grain size distribution of an oxide selected from the group formed by the oxides of scandium, yttrium and the lanthanoids (Column 2, lines 27-29, $d_{50} \leq 0.9\mu\text{m}$).

Regarding claim 2, Derks discloses a cathode ray tube wherein the oxide particles having the first grain size distribution have an average grain size $d_{50} > 0.9\mu\text{m}$ (Column 2, lines 27-29, i.e., the value falls within the claimed size distribution of $0.4 < d_{50} < 5\mu\text{m}$), and the oxide particles having the second grain size distribution have an average grain size $d_{50} \leq 0.9\mu\text{m}$ (Column 2, lines 27-29, i.e., the value falls within the claimed size distribution of $d_{50} < 0.4\mu\text{m}$),

Regarding claim 9, Derks discloses an oxide cathode (Fig. 1) comprising a cathode carrier with a cathode base (7) of a cathode metal and a cathode coating of an electron-emitting material (2) containing a particle-particle composite material of oxide particles of an alkaline earth oxide selected from the group formed by the oxides of calcium, strontium and barium (Column 2, lines 12-19), and oxide particles having a first grain size distribution of an oxide selected from the group formed by the oxides of scandium, yttrium and the lanthanoids (Column 2, lines 27-29, $d_{50} > 0.9\mu\text{m}$), and oxide particles having a second grain size distribution of an oxide selected from the group formed by the oxides of scandium, yttrium and the lanthanoids (Column 2, lines 27-29, $d_{50} \leq 0.9\mu\text{m}$).

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Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 3 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Derks et al. (US 5,075,589).

Regarding claim 3, Derks fails to disclose the limitation the oxide particles having first grain size distribution in a concentration in the range from 0.1 to 20 wt%, and the oxide particles having the second grain size distribution in a concentration in the range from 1×10^{-6} to 1×10^{-3} wt.%. However, Derks exemplifies the addition of oxide particles to the emissive layer in a range of 0.1-1.3wt.% (Column 2, lines 52-58), and the particles size distribution being in a range of about half the particles with $d_{50} > 0.9\mu\text{m}$ and about the other half with $d_{50} < 0.9\mu\text{m}$. Moreover, Derks recognizes the relationship and further optimization of the particles wt.% in relation to the particle size, particularly, the fact that for smaller particle sizes a smaller wt.% of those particles are required (Column 1, lines 48-52). It has been held that where the general conditions of a claim are disclosed in the prior art, discovering the optimum or workable ranges involves only routine skill in the art. *In re Aller*, 105 USPQ 233. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the oxide particles having first grain size distribution in a concentration in the range from 0.1 to 20 wt%, and the oxide particles having the second grain size distribution in a concentration in the range from 1×10^{-6} to 1×10^{-3} wt.%, since optimization of workable ranges is considered within the skill of the art.

Regarding claim 4, Derks discloses a cathode wherein the oxide particles of the alkaline earth oxide selected from the group formed by the oxides of calcium, strontium and barium are

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dopes with an element selected from the group formed by scandium, yttrium and the lanthanoids in a quantity up to about 1wt.% (Column 1, lines 38-41). Derks fails to the doping elements selected from the group formed by scandium, yttrium and the lanthanoids in a quantity ranging from 0.10×10^{-6} to 10×10^{-6} wt.%. However, Derks acknowledges that for a smaller grain size it is sufficient to have smaller quantities of rare earth oxides (Column 1, lines 48-52), and furthermore, that optimum percentages by weight can be found for oxides of the rare earth metals at smaller grain sizes (Column 3, lines 34-41). It has been held that where the general conditions of a claim are disclosed in the prior art, discovering the optimum or workable ranges involves only routine skill in the art. *In re Aller*, 105 USPQ 233. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide doping elements selected from the group formed by scandium, yttrium and the lanthanoids at a quantity ranging from 0.10×10^{-6} to 10×10^{-6} wt.%, since optimization of workable ranges is considered within the skill of the art.

Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Derks et al. (US 5,075,589) in view of Saito et al. (US 4,797,593).

Regarding claim 7, Derks discloses the claimed invention except for the limitation of the electron-emitting material comprises 1 to 3 wt.% particles of an activator metal selected from the group formed by Mg, Al, Fe, Si, Ti, Hf, Zr, W, Mo, Mn and Cr. However, in the same field of endeavor, Saito discloses a cathode for electron gun further comprising an activator metal selected from the group formed by Mg, Al, Fe, Si, Ti, Hf, Zr, W, Mo, Mn and Cr (Table II) which provides partial reduction of the oxide metal and thus activates the electron-emitting layer. Thus, it would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skills in the art to incorporate the activator metal disclosed by Saito in the cathode structure of

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Derks in order to obtain partial reduction of the oxide metal and thus activate the electron-emitting layer.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claim 5, 6 and 8 is allowed over the prior art of record.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Regarding claim 5, the references of the Prior Art of record fails to teach or suggest the combination of the limitations as set forth in claim 5, and specifically comprising the limitation of the electron-emitting material is a stratified composite of at least a first and at least a second layer, said first layer comprising the oxide particles of the alkaline earth oxide selected from the group formed by the oxides of calcium, strontium and barium, and the oxide particles having the a first grain size distribution of the oxide selected from the group formed by the oxides of scandium, yttrium and the lanthanoids, and the second layer comprising the oxide particles of the alkaline earth oxide selected from the group formed by the oxides of calcium, strontium and barium, and the oxide particles having the second grain size distribution of the oxide selected from the group formed by the oxides of scandium, yttrium and the lanthanoids.

Regarding claim 6, claim 6 is allowable for the reasons given in claim 5 because of its dependency status from claim 5.

Regarding claim 8, the references of the Prior Art of record fails to teach or suggest the combination of the limitations as set forth in claim 8, and specifically comprising the limitation of the electron-emitting material comprises 1 to 3 wt.% particles of an activator metal selected from the group formed by Mg, Al, Fe, Si, Ti, Hf, W, Mo, Mn and Cr, which are coated with a metal selected from the group formed by Pd, Rh, Pt, Co, Ni, Ir and Re.

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Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-4, 7 and 9 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Other Prior Art Cited

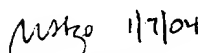
The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mariceli Santiago whose telephone number is (571) 272-2464. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 9:30 AM to 6:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nimesh Patel, can be reached on (571) 272-2457. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

 1/7/04
Mariceli Santiago
Patent Examiner
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